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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/665,177	09/19/2000	Takashi Shiraishi	016907/1143	4823

7590 07/31/2002

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EXAMINER

PHAM, HAI CHI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2861

DATE MAILED: 07/31/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Offic Action Summary	Application N .	Applicant(s)
	09/665,177	SHIRAISHI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Hai C Pham	2861

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE filed on 06/19/02.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 2-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 5-7, 9, 10 and 13 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 2-4, 8, 11, 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>10</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. The request filed on 06/19/02 for a Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 based on parent Application No. 09/665,177 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 2-4, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Naiki et al. (U.S. 5,815,301).

Naiki et al. discloses a scanning optical apparatus comprising a light source (201, Figs. 8A, 8B), forwardly deflecting optical set including a first lens (collimator lens 202)

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for providing light beams from said light source with a predetermined characteristic, and a second lens (G1 formed by cylindrical lenses 203a and 203b) for converging said light beams from said first lens in a first direction (sub-scanning direction), a polygonal mirror unit (204) for deflecting the light beams from said forwardly deflecting optical set into a second direction (main scanning direction) substantially perpendicular to said first direction, a third lens (G2 formed by scanning lens 205) for forming the light beams deflected by said polygonal mirror unit as an image onto a predetermined image surface (photosensitive drum 206) at substantially equal speed, said third lens having a positive power in said second direction, and the second lens having a power in the second direction (col. 19, line 64 to col. 20, line 23).

Naiki et al. further teaches the power of said second lens (203b) in said second direction (sub-scanning direction) is negative, and the resin lens of said second lens (203b) having a surface whose radius of curvature in said second direction is varied along said first direction (col. 16, lines 44-65).

With regard to claim 8, Naiki et al. further discloses the second lens (G1) including a resin lens (203b) and a glass cylinder lens (203a) made of glass having a positive power in the first direction (main scanning direction) and the resin lens having a surface whose radius of curvature in said second direction being varied along the first direction (col. 16, lines 44-65).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naiki et al. in view of Boku et al. (U.S. 5,745,277).

Naiki et al. discloses all the basic limitations of the claimed invention except for the transferring apparatus.

Regardless, it is well known in the printing art that the transfer unit is one of the many components of an optical scanning apparatus for forming an image, as evidenced by Boku et al. (col. 2, lines 39-42).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include a transferring apparatus as taught by Boku et al. in the optical scanning apparatus of Naiki et al. since it is part of the printing apparatus, the incorporation of which would involve only routine skill in the art.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 5-7, 9, 10, and 13 are allowed.

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Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai C Pham whose telephone number is (703) 308-1281. The examiner can normally be reached on T-F (8:30-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John S. Hilten can be reached on (703) 308-0719. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722, (703) 308-7724, (703) 308-7382, (703) 305-3431, (703) 305-3432 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



HAI PHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

July 27, 2002